

25X1A

Copy 7 of 7

21 March 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : OXCART Flight Status Report: 20 March 1963

1. Aircraft #123 (J-75 engines) made flight #55 on 20 March for a duration of one hour and fifty minutes. The purpose was to flight test the inertial navigation system, the Perkin-Elmer camera and a new automatic direction finder antenna with the following results:

a. Inertial navigation system (INS) ground operation and switchover from ground test equipment to aircraft power was satisfactory. Also the INS ground speed and distance-to-go indicators functioned properly during flight and checked out well during postflight inspection.

b. The Perkin-Elmer camera worked properly during scheduled runs over ground control targets.

c. A new automatic direction finder sensing antenna under test provided forty nautical miles less range as compared with the whip-type antenna previously used and the ADF cockpit display exhibited random needle wander during flight.

The landing of the aircraft was normal with good drag chute deployment and operation.

2. Aircraft #121 (J-58 engines) is in the process of having an inlet control schedule changed and an engine changed. The engine change was necessitated to replace a faulty main gear box starter pad seal. Aircraft #122 and aircraft #124 are undergoing minor maintenance work. Aircraft #125 is grounded for the installation of a pressurized new nose and ARC-50 equipment installation. Aircraft #126, shipped from Burbank 19 March, reached the Area 20 March.

7 - DOWNS
4 - CAMPBELL
3 - DOWNS

ONE 7:15 AM

BY TELETYPE

TO: AMEMBASSY, WASHINGTON, D.C.

JOHN PARANGOSKY
Chief, Development Division
(Special Activities)

John Parangosky/C/DD/OSA:haj (21 March 1963)

Distribution:

Cys 1 & 2 - DD/R

3 - AD/OSA

4 - C/DD/OSA

5 - DD/OSA

6 - C/DD/OSA (Chrono)

7 - BB/OSA

ILLEGIB